W claim:

1. An apparatus for handling a tubular, comprising:

a first gripping member operatively coupled to a second gripping member to retain the tubular;

the first gripping member including a first jaw; and

the second gripping member including a second jaw, wherein at least one of the jaws is actuatable to apply a force to the tubular.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an actuator to cause the first and second gripping members to engage the tubular.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the actuator comprises a piston and cylinder assembly.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the actuator comprises a spindle.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein rotating the spindle moves the first gripping member relative to the second gripping member.

6. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the actuator is adapted to resist elastic deformation.

7. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the actuator includes one or more cylindrical bearing.

8. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the actuator includes one or more arcuate contact surfaces.

9. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the force is applied by a cylinder.

10. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein at least one of the first and second jaws includes a spherical bearing.

11. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising one or more force distributors.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second jaw includes a hydraulic cylinder.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second jaws includes a spherical bearing.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising one or more force distributors.

15. A tubular handling assembly, comprising:
a first tubular handling member;
a second tubular handling member; and
a torque member for applying torque to the second tubular handling member, wherein at least one of the tubular handling members includes:
a first gripping member operatively coupled to a second gripping member to retain the tubular;
the first gripping member having a first jaw; and
the second gripping member having a second jaw, wherein at least one of the jaws is actuatable to apply a force to the tubular.

16. The tubular handling assembly of claim 15, further comprising an actuator to cause the first and second gripping members to engage the tubular.

17. The tubular handling assembly of claim 16, wherein the actuator comprises a spindle.

18. The tubular handling assembly of claim 17, wherein rotating the spindle moves the first gripping member relative to the second gripping member.

19. The tubular handling assembly of claim 16, wherein the actuator is adapted to resist elastic deformation.

20. The tubular handling assembly of claim 16, wherein the force is applied by a cylinder.

21. The tubular handling assembly of claim 20, wherein the actuator comprises a spindle.

22. The tubular handling assembly of claim 16, wherein the torque member comprises a hydraulic cylinder.

23. The tubular handling assembly of claim 15, wherein at least one of the first and second jaws includes a spherical bearing.

24. The tubular handling assembly of claim 15, further comprising one or more force distributors.

25. A method for handling a tubular, comprising:
providing a first gripping member having a first jaw;
providing a second gripping member having a second jaw;
engaging the tubular between the first jaw and the second jaw; and
actuating the second jaw to apply a gripping pressure.

26. The method of claim 25, moving the first gripping member relative to the second gripping member to engage the tubular.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein a spindle is rotated to move the first gripping member.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein a hydraulic cylinder is activated to move the first gripping member.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein a hydraulic cylinder is used to actuate the second jaw.

30. A method for connecting a first tubular to a second tubular, comprising:

providing a first tong and a second tong, the first tong rotatable relative to the second tong;

engaging the second tubular with second tong;

rotating the first tong relative to the second tong;

engaging the first tubular with the first tong; and

rotating the first tubular relative to the second tubular to connect the tubulars.

31. The method of claim 30, further comprising:

applying a gripping force to the second tubular after engagement.

32. The method of claim 30, further comprising rotating a spindle to cause the second tubular to engage the second tubular with the second tong.

33. An apparatus for handling a tubular, comprising:

an adjustable tong, including:

a first body part operatively coupled to a second body part, wherein the first body part is movable relative to the second body part to approximate a diameter of a tubular;

the first body part having a first jaw;

the second body part having a second jaw,

wherein the first body part moves the first jaw into contact with the tubular, thereby engaging tubular with the first jaw and the second jaw.

34. A method of handling a tubular with a tong, comprising:

providing an adjustable tong having a plurality of jaws;

adjusting the tong to proximate a diameter of the tubular;
engaging the tubular with the plurality of jaws; and
applying a gripping force with the plurality of jaws.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising remotely operating the tong.

36. The method of claim 34, further comprising automating the tong.

37. The method of claim 34, further comprising providing one or more sensors.